



# Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

February -April 2012

## **Shep-O-Gram**

**Editor** Julie Swinland

651- 457-5459

Blackforestgsd@msn.com

## **GSDC MSP Officers**

**President** Julie Swinland

651-457-5459

Blackforestgsd@msn.com

## **Vice President**

Conni Sokolouski

651-748-9550

csokolouski@comcast.net

## **Secretary** Bobby Moore

6755 E River Road

Fridley, MN 55432

763-572-0218

Robertamoore2@mac.com

## **Treasurer** Denise Gilbertson

4919 - 125th Avenue

Blaine, MN 55449

763-492-2340

wndsong500@aol.com

## **Board members**

Linda Salava

Ginny Altman

Lisa Lunde

## **Training Director**

Julie Swinland

## **Web Guy**

Dave Bissonette

Jecoda@dishup.us

We have had a successful spring with our first three day agility trial and our spring match.

We are hoping to get another geocaching event going this spring also. And of course, we have our specialties in June with conformation, obedience and rally.

This issue is a little longer than usual because it spans 3 months. I hope to get back to the monthly version if time permits. In this issue there is a memorial to Katja, Rhonda Meath's dog who lost her valiant fight for life after a long recovery from surgery. Katja was ranked first German Shepherd in agility preferred by the AKC for 2011. We also have an article on Ron Halling's Hunter who passed recently.

If you know of a member who has lost a dog recently please let Ann Jeddelloh know. She has taken on sending cards from the club for this occasion. Conni Sokolouski has volunteered to be the club contact person for sending cards and flowers to members who are ill or in the hospital.

In March my companion, Gabby, Black Forest Amazon Queen CD, RE, TC, CGC, OFA, went to the Rainbow Bridge. I will try to write something about her next month. Gabby was Xena's litter sister. Xena and I are both wandering around in a daze.

Our April board and membership meetings and training practice will be at Verna's on April 13 because the Animal Inn is not available. Jinny Bailey will be available for training and it will be free.

Please note the new officers and their contact information in the left column on this page.

I hope to get the spring match results in the next issue.

Pat Peterson has returned home after a stay at the Augustana Care Facility. Pat celebrated her 92nd birthday on December 24!

Julie Swinland  
651-457-5459  
Blackforestgsd@msn.com

**SOG Due Date**

May issue - April 21

**April 13 Membership Meeting at the Verna's 8:30 directions on page 3**

**JOIN THE GSDC OF AMERICA TODAY!**

German Shepherd Dog Club of America Membership Application

Requirements: Minimum age of 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. Membership includes subscription to *The German Shepherd Dog Review*.

Membership Type: (circle one)  
 Single \$66.00      Family\* \$100.00

*Dues are not tax deductible      \* Family is defined as same household or significant other.*  
**Make checks payable to GSDCA (Outside the US add \$24.00)**

---

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Phone (s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

---

*I (we) hereby make application to the above Club and agree, if accepted for membership, to abide by its Bylaws and the Bylaws of the AKC. Upon application I will be eligible for all privileges except the right to vote. Thirty days after my name is published in the Review, provided no objections have been filed I will be granted the right to vote.*

---

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Gail Hardcastle, 49 Lakeview Road, White Salmon, WA 98672  
 hardcastle@starband.net

**This is the membership application for the German Shepherd Dog Club of America. For the application for our club see the club web site or pick one up at training**

## Working Tip for Shepherds by Ron Halling

I recently had the pleasure of dog sitting my son's 9 month old GSD. Maverick lives up to his name as a strong willed, very high drive independent dog. He came with a warning, "don't let him outside without him being on a flexi leash". With that came an explanation of how Mav thought it a game to try to get him back in the house. His wife went on to say she was late for work one day while she tried to coax him in with treats, his dinner dish and every phrase she could think of.



Loving a challenge I let Mav out to potty that afternoon. He went out to our "out back" exercise area and sure enough when I told him to come he poised for a game of catch me if you can. I tried a few times to get him to enthusiastically or formerly come to no avail. I could see this just brought out the playful side. I went in and found a hand held boat air horn and returned to the back yard. I called his name and said "come" to which he poised again for the chase. I held up the horn, gave a "nope" and gave a short blast. Maverick was mortified and laid his belly on the ground. How could granddad have this much bark? I said come again and this time he came right to me. After that I only needed to have the air horn in my hand to have a successful come. When my son and his wife returned from their weekend getaway they couldn't believe me when I said their dog comes each time. I sent the horn home with them and sure enough they only needed to hold it in their hand twice and the problem went away by reaffirming who was in charge.

**Ron Halling**



## April 13 training, board and membership meetings will be at Verna Kubik's

There is plenty of space outdoors for conformation and an indoor facility for obedience and rally.

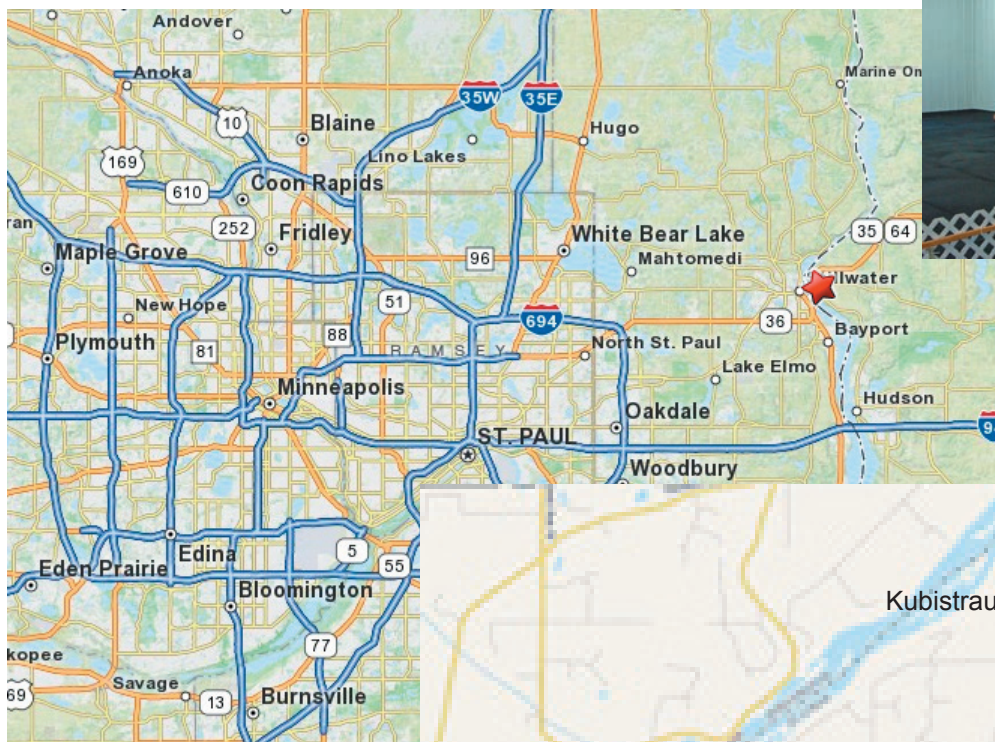
### Location: Kubistraum

Houlton WI. just across the river from Stillwater.

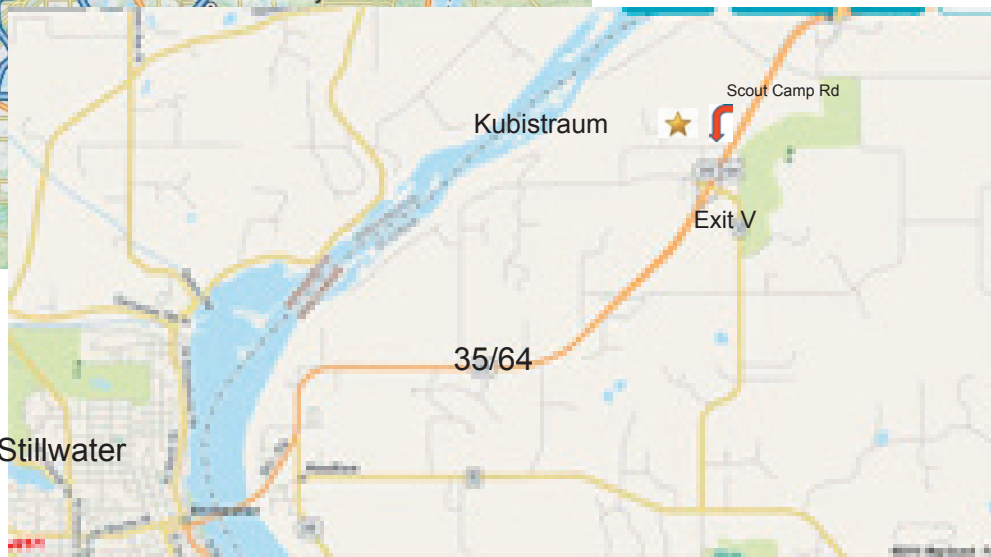
Cross the Stillwater bridge, remain on HWY 35/64 to Exit 4 County Rd V. At the top of the exit ramp go left, take the first road (30th st) to the right. At the stop sign go left on Scout Camp Road. Kubistraum is on the right.

274 Scout Camp Rd Houlton WI.

You also could take I-94 to Hudson and go north on 35 to Exit 4, County Rd V and follow the instructions above



indoor arena for  
obedience and rally



Large flat area for conformation



# Katja, A Dog for all Seasons, A Dog for all Reasons

PACH 2 KLEINE PRINZESSIN KATJA RN MXP9 MJP10 PAX PAX2 PAX3 CGC THERAPY DOG

4-4-2004 ~ 2-3-2012

Many of you have met Katja, a top agility dog, therapy dog, and all around friend of Rhonda Meath's. Rhonda asked me to write a little about Katja and I find that a hard task. I have known Katja for about 2 years. She was the dog dressed in pink, pink collars, pink blankets, pink crates. She was a quiet dog, at least when I saw her. I watched her closely at agility trials, hoping one day that Xena and I might be able to perform with the consistency that was Katja. She rarely made a mistake, almost always doubled Q'd. She never looked that fast to me, but that was deceptive. She always made the course time and was actually quite a bit under it. I kept trying to figure that out and realized it was because she made it look so effortless. No wasted motion, no wide turns. She made it look easy. She had the grace of a princess.

Katja, like many German Shepherds, was not satisfied with excelling in just one career, she wore many "collars", and was also a phenomenal therapy dog, making visits to senior assisted living, a local county correctional facility with juvenile inmates and with school children. She touched many lives.

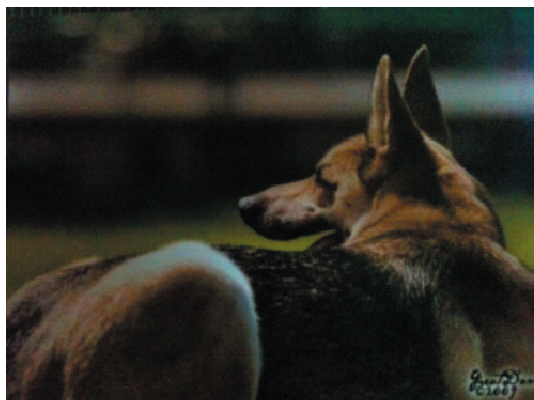
And then there was her third career, as Rhonda's companion. Some of you know that Katja was stricken with an illness last year. She fought valiantly and it looked like she would be coming back and running agility again. That was not to be however. She took a very sudden turn for the worse and died February 3. The AKC results just came out recently and she was the #1 German Shepherd in Excellent Preferred for last year. She will be missed at the agility trials and on the therapy visits.

Rhonda designed and purchased a trophy to be given to the high scoring German Shepherd at our agility trials in memory of Katja.

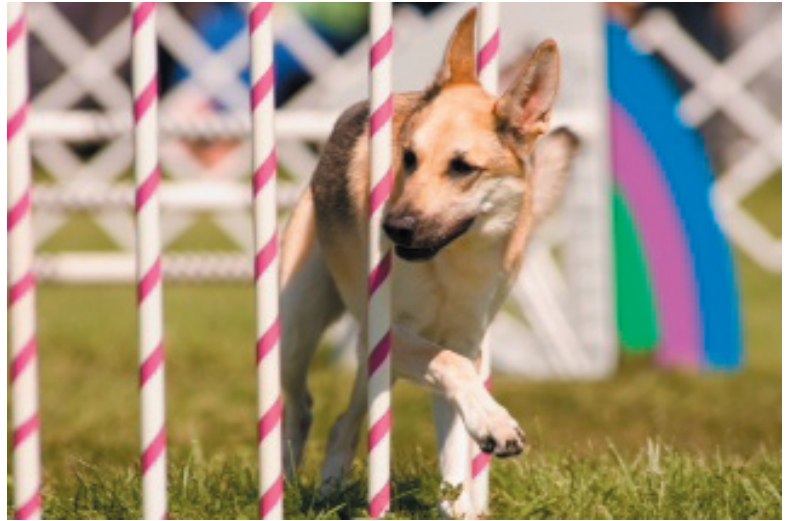
" SHE WAS A GIFT ~ SHE HAD A GIFT ~ SHE'S GODS GIFT now  
"



Katja Memorial Trophy



I thought of you with love today  
But that is nothing new  
I thought about you yesterday  
And every day before that too .  
Your memory is my keepsake  
With which I will never part  
God has you in his keeping  
But I hold you forever in my heart .



**Katja was just 12 points away from her PACH 3**

## Hunter, a Dog with a lot of Heart

**Ron Halling**

I'm sad to say we had to let our beloved Hunter, big guy on the right, go this month. He was the most intelligent and caring dog I have ever been associated with, no brag, just fact as Walter Brennan used to say. Two of his most endearing stories were when Ann and I were cold in the basement. We came upstairs

in search of the draft to find Hunter had stood on his hind legs and unlocked the switch for our sliding glass door, slid open the door and was sitting there waiting for Addie as she pottied. The other was when we gave him a treat and he walked over, laid it at Addie's feet, then returned for one of his own. No one could sneeze in our house without him laying his head on their shoulder for comfort.

He had his first Utility leg when he was struck with Gracilius Myopathy which ended his obedience

career. He was unbeaten in obedience brace working with his son.



**Hunter is on the far right**



He won the only conformation brace event in which he was entered in grand fashion. Up against four other brace teams the judge had us run around the ring one more time so she could point out that their legs looked like one set as they went around the ring. Watching him slide down the stairs on his side, then wagging his tail as he looked up as if to say "I'll have to take a mulligan on that one" was the end. He'll be missed by many and greeted on the other side as well.

**Hunter on Ron's left in perfect step with his son Riley**



## GSDCMSP Agility trial March 30-April 1



German Shepherds at the first GSDCMSP agility trial. All but two of the people are members of our club. Left to right: Julie Swinland & Xena, Jinny Bailey and Gambler, Michelle Patet and Annie, Rhonda Meath and Smith, Jeanne Sutich and Luka & Hannah, Karlyn Berg and Raven, Mary Bente and Jack, Elaine Matthys and Spyder & Chaos, Connie Halfin and Alaska, Jennifer Jonston and Raven, Janet Sinner and Jack, Gina McCuen and Otto.

### NOVICE

**ANNIE ~ Michelle Patet ~ 24"**  
 Fri : STD 36.92 1 st place  
 Sat: STD 47.63 2 nd place

**SMITH ~ Rhonda Meath ~ 24"**  
 Fri: STD 46.66 4 th place  
 JWW 29.65 3rd place

Members who ran dogs (not GSD's)

**ALASKA ~ Connie Haffen ~ 24"**  
 Sat : STD 69.44. 1st place  
 Sun : JWW 25.15. 1st place

**SPYDER ~ Elaine Matthys ~ 24"**  
 Fri: STD 48.77  
 Sun: JWW 29.72. 4 th place

### NOVICE B

**ARROW ~ Mary Bente ~ 20"**  
 Fri : STD 37.13 2nd place  
 Sat : STD 45.83 4th place  
 Sun : JWW 32.20. 2nd place

**RAVEN ~ Jennifer Johnston ~ 20"**  
 preferred  
 Fri : STD 47.26 2 nd place  
 Sat : STD 57.14 2nd place  
 JWW 27.79. 2 nd place  
 Sun : JWW 37.06 2 nd place  
 ( highest scoring GSD in trial ~  
 recipient of the KATJA AWARD )

**BELLA ~ Eileen Varhalla ~**  
 Sat : STD 44.50  
 Sun :STD 41.46 1st place

### EXCELLENT DOGS

**HANNAH ~ Jeanne Sutich ~ 20"**  
 Fri: JWW 31.98  
 Sat : JWW 30.08

### EXCELLENT B :

**JACK ~ Janet Sinner ~ 24"**  
 Sat: JWW 32.29  
 Sun: JWW 32.46

**QUETZEL ~ Michelle Ritt ~ 24"**  
 Sun : JWW 29.54 2nd place



High German Shepherd in Trial  
 Raven and Jennifer Johnston



A very large and successful  
 raffle raised over \$1400 for  
 The GSD Rescue

## Special Awards Given at the 2012 Awards Banquet

Honorary Members - Ginny and Denny Altman  
Cliff Sportsmanship Award - Paul Johnson  
President's Awards - Verna Kubik and Ann Jeddell  
Special Recognition Awards  
Eileen Varhalla  
Chris Duffy  
Roger Salava  
Linda Salava  
Lisa Marie Fortier

Ginny Altman  
Peggy Simerson  
Zoa Rockenstein  
Jinny Bailey  
Laurie Schray  
Mada Skare  
Dave Bissonnette  
Bobby Moore  
Jan Anderson  
Kathy DuVall  
Rhonda Meath

## Braggs

**WILLAWAY'S RIVER OF DREAMS CDX, RE, TD  
"ISIS"**  
**OWNER(S) NANCY KEHOE & LINDA FISHER**

Timber Ridge Obedience Training Club of Central  
Wisconsin Tracking Dog/Track Dog Excellent Test  
Sunday October 30, 2011  
**NEW TITLE: TRACKING DOG**



Quest (Ch. Kubistraums Quest, CD, RE, TC)  
completed his CDX obedience title today at the  
Minneapolis Kennel Club Obedience/Rally trial  
with a score of 186 on his third leg.

Conni Sokolouski also competed with Indy  
(Ch. Kubistraums Indiana Jones, RN, TC)-- and  
completed his Beginner Novice (BN) title. I  
didn't hear the score or whether he placed.  
Congratulations to both of them

Gambler (Kubistraums Quick Pick, RE, CD,  
HSAs, GN, NAP\*, NJP\* , TC) qualified in all four  
runs at the St. Croix Valley KC Agility trials this  
weekend (2/04-05, 2012), and completed his  
Novice Standard Preferred (NAP) and Novice  
Jumpers with Weaves Preferred (NJP) Titles. He  
placed second in Standard with a 95Q and First in  
Jumpers with 100Q on Saturday, and First in Both  
Standard and Jumpers with 100Qs on Sunday.

BMW had a great weekend, 1st Open and  
Winners" dog both days, winning back to back  
3 point majors in Dubuque

**SLOVANSEHKO'S MAJESTIC AUF DE HAUS AX  
AXJ - SMITH Rhonda Meath**

St Croix Valley Kennel Club agility trial on Feb 4  
& 5, 1st place in JWW, 4th place in his STD run  
& 32 MACH points.

Greater Twin Cities Miniature Pincher Club agility  
trial on Feb 10-12, three 2nd place placements  
, one fourth place finish, his first 2 QQ's and  
earned 82 points towards his MACH.



QQ on Saturday March 2nd  
He earned his MX on Sunday March 3rd, 46  
new MACH points on Sunday, March 3rd at the  
TCOTC agility trial.

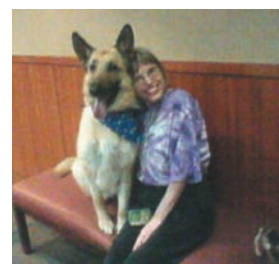
RIN TIN TIN #12 (SMITH) will be appearing in  
Atlantic City at the HH Backer Pet Show April 18,  
19 & 20th.

Rhonda will be  
accompanying him to this  
event. He is sponsored by  
Jersey Shore Dogs.  
This is the promo photo.



Natalie 6r old female, German Shepherd (owned  
by Kathy DuVall)  
doing therapy dog work at Mercy Hospital in the  
lobby with friend Debbie

Debbie says, "I have to  
hug Natalie so that my  
EKG will turn out good.  
On the days I don't see  
her before my tests, the  
tests are bad".



How touching is that?

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and  
St Paul  
Annual Membership Meeting  
January 21, 2011

1. We will be unable to use Animal Inn on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Membership asked its preference between moving Board and membership meetings from regular meeting day, which would be February 10 to February 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>. It was moved seconded and passed to move them to Feb 24.

2. New Membership Directory item #1:

Regarding the club rules published in the new membership directory (handed out this afternoon): It was pointed out that the revised bylaws changed some standing rules, which renders some items inconsistent. A motion was made and seconded to accept the rules as published.

3. New membership directory item #2:

It was pointed out that there should be a way for members to have corrections made on their information. Corrections should be sent to Linda Salava.

4. Voting on new officers

Election outcome:

President: Julie Swinland  
Vice President: Conni Sokolouski  
Secretary: Roberta Moore  
Treasurer: Denise Gilbertson

A motion was made and passed to destroy the ballots.

Meeting adjourned 3:50 pm

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis &  
St. Paul  
Board Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 2012

**Officers Present:**

Julie Swinland, President  
Conni Sokolouski, Vice President  
Roberta Moore, Secretary  
Denise Gilbertson, Treasurer

**Board Members Present:**

Lisa Lunde, Board Member  
Linda Salava, Board Member

**Board Members absent:**

Ginny Altman

*This month's meeting was held at the Lake Elmo Training Center.*

President called the meeting to order at 6:17pm.

**Officers Reports:**

**President's Report** - Julie Swinland  
MPBDA (Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Association)  
Our membership is up for renewal. All board members are in favor of proposing payment of membership to the general membership.

**Vice President's Report** - Conni Sokolouski  
None

**Secretary's Report** - Roberta Moore  
Minutes - The minutes of the board and last meeting were emailed and posted to the website and Shep-O-Gram

Vote to dispense with reading of the minutes

Correspondence - One email from the AKC (American Kennel Club) offering the club the ability to receive Event and Judging Panel Notices via Email. The club is already using this service.

The Secretary received two pieces of correspondence via the USPS concerning upcoming AKC events.

1. Rally Event #2012199803 to be held on June 23, 2012, Dakota County Fairgrounds. \*Approval of the Rally event is pending the final approval of the associated Obedience trial.
2. Herding Event #2012199808 to be held at Polly



Simpson Farm, New Richmond, WI. \*A club must have a Disaster Emergency Plan available at the event.

**Treasurer's Report** - Roger Salava / Denise Gilbertson  
Roger reported that on 1/31/2011 the club had a total of \$15,130.32 in its combined accounts. As of 2/24/2012 the club has \$13,384.36 in the regular checking account and \$5,716.48 in the Money Market account for a total of \$19,100.84.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Membership Report** - Linda Salava

Linda reported that as of this meeting the club has a total of 185 members this number includes the member applicants.

Membership Directory is done and ready to mail, it will go out via USPS and email. Linda brought it to the boards attention that all new member applicants should be receiving a copy of the membership directory and a copy of the AKC German Shepherd Standard. Discussion ensued about how best to get these to new members.

### **Shep-O-Gram and Website** - Julie Swinland

Lisa Marie brought it to the board's attention that the calendar on the website needs updated. Julie, Lisa Marie, and Verna will see that it gets updated. Julie would like some help with the Shep-O-Gram.

### **2012 Specialty** - Cristina McColl, Show Chair

Cristina reported that we have no photographer. Valerie Harrington will not be available. She has a number of names to contact. Verna Kubik suggested that the board bring the matter to the membership and have them give Cristina a list of options. Discussion ensued about what to offer a photographer and it was decided that we would offer the same as we had given Valerie in the past.

### **Training Director** - Julie Swinland

Lisa Marie brought it to the board's attention that the club has a trainer, Mary Sorcic, she is not getting paid for teaching puppy classes. Lisa Marie suggested the club start paying Mary \$15 per class and that the board put it to the membership for a vote. Lisa Marie also brought it to the boards attention that space for teaching puppy classes is at a premium due to high enrollment (a good thing). This will be something to look into for the future.

### **Herding Trial** - Jinny Bailey

Jinny reported that everything is moving along on schedule. Judges are hired, paperwork is filed, and the AKC's request for a Disaster Emergency Plan has been addressed.

### **Agility Trial** - Rhonda Meath

Rhonda reported that everything is on schedule, the trophy bars are being made and she is currently working

on the food. She also reported that the event drew over 500 applicants a day for the 3-day event. We can only have 330 runs per day so the large entry was great. Rhonda reports we will be in the black for this trial.

**Budget and Finance** - Roger Salava and Mike Metz  
Auditing Committee - Roger Salava, Denise Gilbertson, and Mada Skare have set a time to meet for the audit of the GSDC of Mpls & St. Paul finances. The auditing committee will meet at Mada Skare's house Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Old Business:**

**Banquet** - everything went well, nothing to report.

## **New Business:**

### **Spring Match Report** - Match Chair needed.

Board discussed March 23rd as a possible date for the match. Discussion about Jan Anderson being the Match Chair for paper work and Denise Gilbertson as Co-Chair.

### **Fun Day** - Verna Kubik

Verna would like some input on activates that will help draw people to the event. Last year was good but she would like to see it keep growing. Suggestions were; Combine the Fun Day with a Match, come up with programs and demonstrations that will draw more general public interested in fun things to do with your dog. Still working on a date for this event.

### **Hospitality** - Ann Jeddeloh

Ann will be in charge of sending out cards to members who's dogs have died. Conni Sokolouski will set up an account with Bachman's Flowers so the club can send out flowers to members when the need arises.

Denise Gilbertson made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting, Linda Salava Seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm

Next Board meeting:  
Friday March 9, 2012

Roberta Moore, Secretary



## **German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

March 9, 2012

#### **Officers Present:**

Julie Swinland, President  
Conni Sokolouski, Vice President  
Roberta Moore, Secretary  
Denise Gilbertson, Treasurer

#### **Board Members Present:**

#### **Board Members absent:**

Ginny Altman  
Lisa Lunda, Board Member  
Linda Salava, Board Member

*This month's meeting was held at the Lake Elmo Training Center.*

President called the meeting to order at 6:09pm.

#### **Officers Reports:**

**President's Report** - Julie Swinland  
None.

**Vice President's Report** - Conni Sokolouski  
Conni opened discussion about how to inspire more members to volunteer. Maybe a discount on membership for volunteering, higher fees on not volunteering. There was nothing final just ideas. Conni also brought up advertising in the local papers (Star Tribune & St. Paul Pioneer Press). Some while ago we had an on going ad in the weekend papers about our club and when we meet along with some other information. Bobby will look into the cost and bring a proposal to the board.

**Secretary's Report** - Roberta Moore  
Minutes - The minutes of the board and last meeting were emailed and posted to the website and Shep-O-Gram.

Vote to dispense with reading of the minutes, carried.

Correspondence - The Secretary received one piece of correspondence via the USPS concerning upcoming AKC event.

1. Herding Event #2012199808 to be held at Polly Simpson Farm, New Richmond, WI.  
The panel has been approved as recorded.

**Treasurer's Report** - Denise Gilbertson  
Denise reported that the audit took place as scheduled. The transfer of the check book has been made.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership Report** - Linda Salava  
None.

**Shep-O-Gram and Website** - Julie Swinland  
Julie would like some help with the Shep-O-Gram and updating the web site.

**Training Director** - Julie Swinland  
New trainer Mary Sorcic, will be paid \$15 per class as voted on by the membership. Payment will be retroactive to start on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Herding Trial** - Jinny Bailey  
All going well and on track.

**All Breed Liason** - Linn Klingel-Brown  
None.

**2012 Specialty** - Cristina McColl, Show Chair  
Nothing from Cristina. A new photographer will be at the club this evening to try photographing German shepherds.

**Agility Trial** - Rhonda Meath  
None.

#### **Old Business:**

**Spring Match Report** - Match Chair Kathi Balaban & Jan Anderson.  
A budget was asked for. In the past we set a budget of \$200 for food all on the board agreed and the food budget is set at \$200.00

#### **New Business:**

**Fun Day** - Verna Kubik  
Suggestions were discussed to draw more people. Combine the Fun Day with a Match, come up with programs and demonstrations that will draw more general public interested in fun things to do with your dog. Still working on a date for this event. It was suggested that we could have CGC and Therapy dog certifications. Bobby mentioned an instructor that is local and can do both, Tim Peterson. Bobby will contact him to see if he is interested. We could have possible DNA testing for DM in German shepherds, low-cost micro chipping, low-cost shot clinic, photographers for dog photos, just a few ideas.

Conni Sokolouski made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting, Linda Salava Seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Next Board meeting:  
Friday April 13, 2012, At Verna Kubik's Home  
Roberta Moore, Secretary

**German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul**

**Membership Meeting Minutes**

March 9, 2012

**Officers Present:**

Julie Swinland, President  
Conni Sokolouski, Vice President  
Roberta Moore, Secretary  
Denise Gilbertson, Treasurer

**Board Members Present:**

Linda Salava, Board Member (1 years remaining)

**Board Members Absent:**

Ginny Altman, Board (2 years remaining)  
Lisa Lunde, Board Member

See attendance sign it sheet for members present.

*This month's meeting was held at the Lake Elmo Training Center.*

President called the meeting to order at 8:40pm.

**Officers Reports:**

**President's Report** - Julie Swinland  
None.

**Vice President's Report** - Conni Sokolouski  
None.

**Secretary's Report** - Roberta Moore  
Minutes - The minutes of the board and last meeting were emailed and posted to the website and Shep-O-Gram.

Mike Metz made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes, Denise Gilbertson seconded, the motion passed.

The Secretary received one piece of correspondence via the USPS concerning upcoming AKC event.

1. Herding Event #2012199808 to be held at Polly Simpson Farm, New Richmond, WI. The panel has been approved as recorded.

**Treasure's Report** - Denise Gilbertson  
Books, bills and check register has been passed to Denise. Nothing to report at this time. No checks issued and no bills paid since the last meeting.

**Budget and Finance** - Roger Salava and Mike Metz  
Auditing Committee - Roger Salava, Denise Gilbertson, and Mike Metz. The auditing committee met as scheduled Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. No report as of this meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership Report** - Linda Salava

Linda reported that as of this meeting the club has a total of 182 members this number includes the member applicants.

**Shep-O-Gram and Website** - Julie Swinland

Nothing to report.

**Training Director** - Julie Swinland

The organizing of the rings discussed at the February meeting is taking place. Waiting for input from current trainers as to any other changes.

**Herding Trial** - Jinny Bailey

Everything has been approved. Moving along as planned.

**All Breed Liaison** - Linn Klingel-Brown

None.

**Agility Trial** - Rhonda Meath

None.

**Program Committee** - Martha Simonett

None.

**2012 Specialty** - Cristina McColl Show Chair

Nothing from Cristina. A new photographer will be at the club this evening to try photographing German shepherds. We are still waiting for the contracts from the Dakota county Fair Grounds. A check needs to be mailed to the AKC for \$100.00 to cover fees for the show.

Vern Kubik is checking with Dr. Fran Smith DVM to see if she would be willing to speak at our show dinner. She could give a program on OFA, concerning DJD in elbows and other topics. Verna was given permission by the membership to hire Dr. Smith to be our dinner speaker. Bobby Moore suggested that we might find a more intimate building for our dinner if possible right on the fair grounds. Kelly Salava suggested that more people will attend the dinner if we keep it on the grounds. A Hospitality Chair is needed. It was suggested that Haines Clausen or Bo Vujovich be asked to accept the position.

**2012 Spring Match, April 6** - Jan Anderson & Kathi Balaban

Mike Wakling will be the Conformation Judge. Barb Wedekind Selton will be the Obedience Judge. Linn Klingel-Brown will be the Rally Judge. Call for ring stewards. Bobby Moore and Jinny Bailey volunteered. Kathy Balaban volunteered to chair the silent action & food. Someone will call Laurie Schray to see if she will help with food. The club was asked for a food budget. Verna Kubik made a motion that the membership accept a budget of \$200.00 for food. Conni Sokolouski

Seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

**Old Business:**

None.



## New Business:

The floor was opened for suggestions on how the club could inspire more members to volunteer to help with events and other things. Mike Metz suggested that we could buy gifts for event volunteers. Verna Kubik suggested that we ask some of the members who have volunteered in the past to help new members, suggesting that sometimes people don't volunteer for things because that are not sure what to do. Denise Gilbertson mentioned it could be like mentoring. Verna also suggested that event chairs could keep track of the members that helped and they would be rewarded in some way. The club is open to suggestions.

### Fun Day - Verna Kubik

Suggestions were discussed to draw more people. Combine the Fun Day with a Match. Julie Swinland suggested that we come up with programs and demonstrations that will draw more general public interested in fun things to do with their dogs. Julie also suggested that we could have CGC and Therapy dog tests. Bobby mentioned an instructor that is local and can do both, Tim Peterson. Bobby will contact him to see if he is interested. Verna suggested we could have possible DNA testing for DM in German shepherds and that this could be very beneficial to breeders. Low-cost micro chipping, low-cost shot clinic, photographers for dog photos, were just a few ideas discussed. Still working on a date for this event. Kelly Salava and Liz Oster were consulted on what dates would not conflict with dog shows that would draw from our Fun Day attendance.

### April 2012 Meeting – Verna

Animal Inn is not available for the club's meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>. We will either need a new meeting date or a temporary meeting place. Verna Kubik suggested April 20<sup>th</sup> for the club's next meeting. Jinny Bailey Made a motion to move the monthly meeting for April to the 29<sup>th</sup>. Denise seconded the motion. The motion was halted and discussion ensued. Roger Salava brought up the lack of attendance at our monthly meetings and suggested that we come up with ideas to attract more members. Roger also suggested that we keep our April 13<sup>th</sup> date and move our meeting. Jinny withdrew her motion. Verna offered her home and training building as a meeting site. After much discussion the members decided that the club would move our meeting to Verna's. No motion was necessary because we are not changing the date of the meeting. Meeting will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Verna Kubik and Jinny Bailey. The secretary will make an email and a post card to be sent to the membership noting the change in location. It will also

be posted on the club web site.

Jinny Bailey moved to adjourn the membership meeting, Roger Salava seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Next Membership meeting:  
Friday April 13, 2012, At Verna Kubik's Home

Roberta Moore, Secretary



April 8 Riley received his UD title

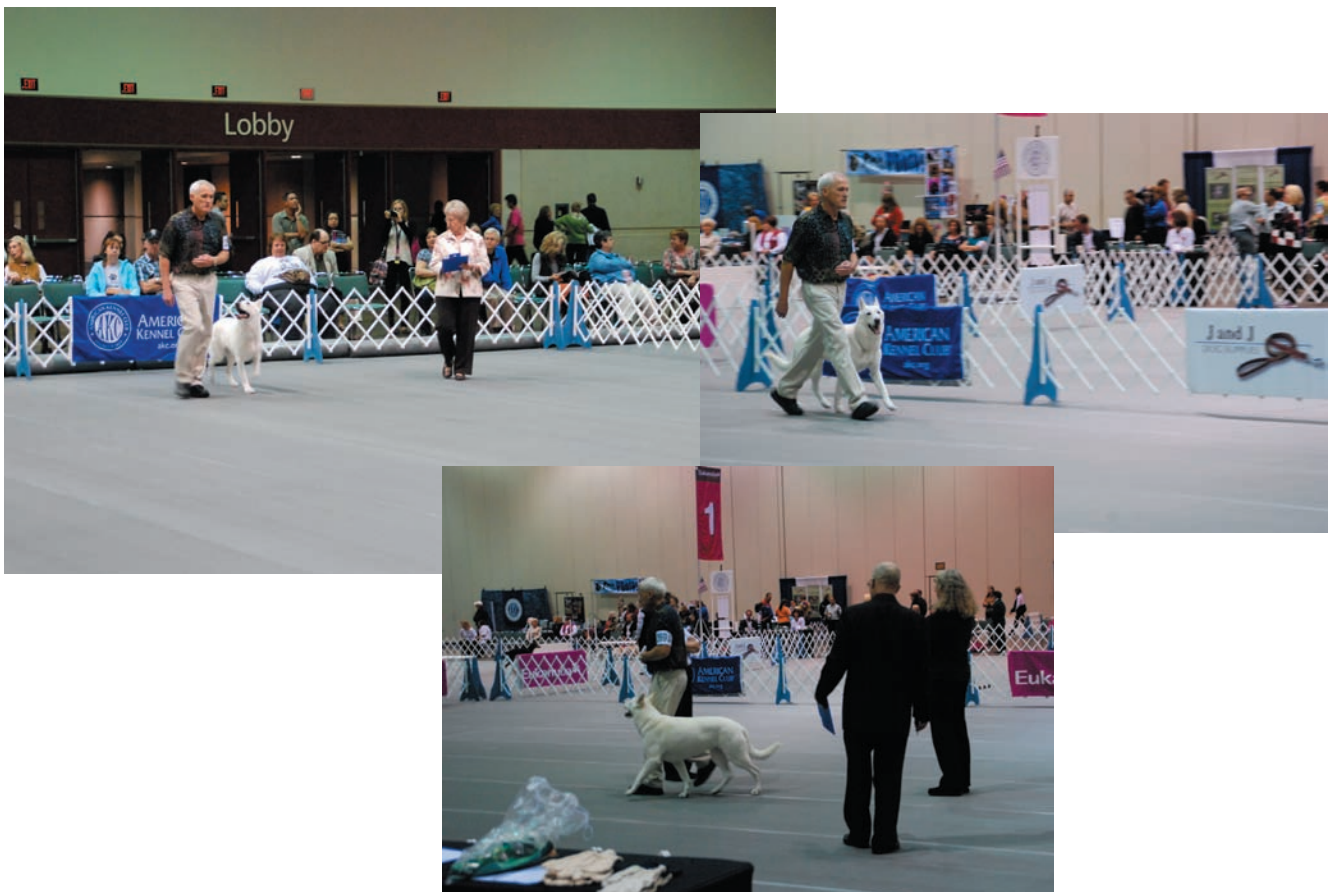


**Training and membership  
meeting April 13. Map and  
directions on page 3**

**A note from Ron:** there were only three GSD's in the National Obedience Invitational (NOI) so I guess it's a good reflection on our club to have a GSD getting there. A woman I didn't even know just got these to me through others. Both judges have GSD's of their own so she thought it might be special to have pics of them judging a white. The woman, Pat Krause was at the GSD Nationals judging.

My female Addie and I competed in "The Greatest Show On Earth" December 17th & 18th at the Eukanuba National Obedience Invitational in Orlando. Besides breed, water dock dogs and agility, 147 obedience teams were invited along with an estimated 25,000 in the audience in all events. In obedience you go from 7:30- 4:00 pm both days moving from your starting ring, mine was No. 6, ring to ring until you have completed all 8. In each ring open and utility exercises are a mixed assortment until you have completed all open and utility exercises twice in one day. You then return the next day and repeat. That means in one ring you may be doing directed jumping along with open heeling, the next ring broad jump followed by the moving stand. Sadly Addie developed a right shoulder limp that came and went but the AKC reps told me to compete and let the judges excuse us if the limp was present. We did and were able to compete eleven of sixteen rings in two days. The limp never returned after that so I think I may have just worked her a little too hard for her age, (7), in the days leading up to the show. There was no rhyme or reason as one ring she did her directed jumping while the next she couldn't walk ten feet without limping so bad the judge was forced to excuse her.

It was a wonderful experience having fun with the best of the best. The highlight was in my last ring each day in which Addie really shone, No. 5, where judge Robert Squires, (pictured), a GSD man himself remarked the last day, "that's the best heeling GSD I have ever seen". That turned what could have been a frustrating experience into a fulfilling two weeks of fun. And isn't that the best way to leave any show, looking at the positive in all we did, not the failures.



# Cloned 9/11 Search and Rescue Dogs: A Doggie Dream Team

by [Maryann Mott](#)

Published August 25, 2010 reprinted with permission of the author



James Symington is working hard to teach his new canine brood some old tricks.

The former head of a Canadian police K9 unit has five German shepherds - all clones of his former partner, Trakr, an extraordinary search and rescue dog who throughout his career located hundreds of people, recovered \$1 million in stolen goods, and found the last survivor at Ground Zero following the 9/11 attacks.

Symington is training the genetic doubles - named Trustt, Solace, Valor, Prodigy and Dejavu - for search and rescue work in hopes of creating an elite team, providing free services to victims of any emergency situation or disaster worldwide where people are trapped or missing.

Such a service is desperately needed, given that last year alone 321 natural disasters occurred worldwide, he notes.

Symington plans on deploying [Team Trakr](#) before the end of the year.

"A highly mobile team of dogs with Trakr's abilities could make a difference in saving lives," says Symington, a Los Angeles resident. The German shepherds were cloned for free after Symington won an essay contest held by BioArts International of Mill Valley, Calif., a now defunct pet cloning company.

A sample of Trakr's DNA was sent to BioArt's South Korean lab where, six months later, on December 8, 2008, Trustt was born. A few months later, four more black and tan shepherds pups were born, just days apart.

Scientists duplicated Trakr using a process called somatic-cell nuclear transfer, the same method that produced Dolly the sheep, the first mammal successfully cloned.

Symington is happy with the results.

"I am already recognizing some of the same traits that contributed to Trakr's success - strong play and prey drives; heart and determination and the ability to problem solve," he says.

Shortly after the births, Trakr - who had [degenerative myelopathy](#), a progressive spinal cord disease that rendered his back legs useless - died. He was 16 years old.

Training the energetic male shepherds is already underway. Symington's focus is currently on obedience training as well as exercises that reinforce the dogs' inherent play and prey drives. These are the building blocks of any successful working dog, he emphasizes. In all, it'll take 600 hours of basic and specialized training before the privately funded team is mission ready.

Back in the day, Trakr excelled at tracking and air scenting, also known as the open search. When the shepherd located someone, he'd bark then become erect, with an arrow-straight tail and nose pointed in the right direction. "When you work closely as a K9 team, the handler learns to understand both the subtle and not so subtle indicators your canine partner gives you when he has found someone," says Symington. "Both are very valuable, especially in search and rescue where the victim may be buried in debris and you are pinpointing on a location versus physically connecting with the actual victim."

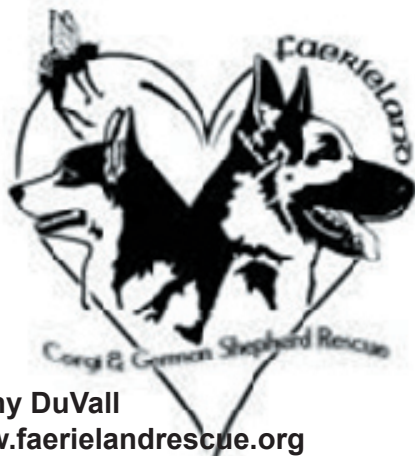
In an effort to help other mobile search and rescue teams, Symington recently established the [Team Trakr Foundation](#), which supports organizations that train shelter dogs for this valuable, life saving service.

As far as his own team, Symington looks forward to the day the boys begin being deployed.

"Team Trakr is not about holding on to the past," he explains. "It's about continuing the extraordinary legacy of one remarkable dog

**For more info on Teamtrkr go to <http://www.teamtrakr.org/>**





Kathy DuVall  
[www.faerielandrescue.org](http://www.faerielandrescue.org)  
 Rescue & Foster Home Care - Minnesota  
 for German Shepherds & Welsh Corgis only

Find us on **PETFINDER** and **FACEBOOK**

Wish List  
 Used Tread mill  
 book case (1 or 2) for the books for the dogs  
 and the garage sale  
 dog toys - like kongs or indestructible toys  
 dog treats  
 gas cards  
 visa cards to buy dog food-prefer to buy all the  
 same kind as I am currently using (EaglePack  
 Adult original formula)  
 canned dog food  
 mackeral in the can  
 dog collars -fabric or nylon that snap apart  
 (send one home with each dog)  
 dog leashes (send home with each dog)  
 help with fund raisers  
 foster homes for German Shepherds



In 2012 FaerieLand Rescue has adopted into  
 FUREVER homes the following lucky dogs:

January

Kota -10 1/2 yr male

February

Sarge - 7 1/2 yr male

Beauty - 11 1/2 yr female (Sarge & Beauty  
 adopted together)

March

Suzie -2 1/2 yr female

Tally -3 month puppy female

Current rescues:

Hank - 8 yr male

Jackson - 6 yr male

Patty - 7 yr female

Fundraisers for 2012

Aluminum Can drive - ongoing please save your  
 aluminum cans

Towels - slightly used and needed for the rescue  
 dogs

Used Blankets & used comforters -- to be  
 "remade" into dog beds/pads.

Garage Sale - planning for June 5 through June  
 8 2012 (this is our biggest fundraiser) collecting  
 items between now and the weekend before the  
 sale. No electronics or appliances.

Thank you for the donation of the four (4) raised  
 dogs beds from the Joan Johnson Memorial Fund.  
 I would like to say thank you for the kind and  
 generous gift.

Kathy DuVall,  
 Founder and President  
 FaerieLand Rescue



Rhonda Meath Agility Trial Chair presented Kathy  
 with over \$1400 worth of goods and services  
 purchased with money raised at a raffle at the 2012  
 agility trial. This included \$500 worth of prepaid  
 services at the vet clinic Kathy uses for the GSD's in  
 the rescue

## Club Events

May \_TBA Ron Halling's obedience Workshop at SPDTC in South St Paul. See Flyer on [www.gsdcmsp.org](http://www.gsdcmsp.org) for details

April 13 training will be at Verna Kubik's in Houlton WI Map on page 3

April 13 membership meeting 8:30 at Verna's See map on page 3

No training June 8

Shep-O-Gram  
1087 Allen Avenue  
W. St Paul, MN 55118



German Shepherd Dog Club  
of Minneapolis & St Paul

## GSDC MSP Class Schedule

Obedience Classes effective July 1. 2010

### Ring 1

Eileen Varhalla  
Run throughs 6:00-6:45  
Intermediate Novice 7:00-7:45  
Beginning Ob or Advanced Puppy 8:00-8:45  
Advanced Puppy will be offered between  
Beginning Obedience blocks

### Ring 2

Lisa Marie Fortier  
S.T.A.R. Puppy Class 7:00-8:00  
Jinny Bailey  
Rally Class 8:00-8:45

### Ring 3

Jinny Bailey  
Competition Obedience 6:45-7:30  
Various Trainers  
Jr Handlers/Puppy Conformation 7:30-8:00  
Adult Conformation 8:00--8:30  
Puppy Socialization -designed for breeders and  
owners to chat 8:30-9:00

Training Director:

Julie Swinland 651-457-5459